

Date: January 10, 2006

To: Chairman Randolph, and Commissioners Blair, Downey, Huguenin and Remy

From: Mark Krausse, Executive Director

#### A. PERSONNEL & BUDGET

The Enforcement Division has hired two new attorneys with significant experience who will add much to the enforcement mission. Kourtney Vaccaro has worked for Kronick, Moskovitz, for Best, Best & Krieger; and for Freeman, DAiuto, specializing in public agency litigation, including PRA work. She graduated from U.S.C. with joint MPA and JD degrees. Tom Dyer has a wealth of prosecutorial experience, having most recently worked as a Sutter County Deputy District Attorney.

In addition, Leon Schorr is a Deputy District Attorney in the San Diego who will be working in the Enforcement Division for 6 or more months as part of a cooperative agreement to help him bring a greater knowledge of the Political Reform Act to his office's public integrity program. Leon graduated from UC Davis Law School and has been with the DA's Office for five years.

The Governor's budget has been released, and includes an additional \$700,000 for the Commission. This is in addition to \$164,000 for implementation of SB 8's expansion of the revolving door ban to local government. If approved by the Legislature, these amounts, and the accompanying 13 positions they would fund, will be available to the Commission beginning July 1, 2006. At the January meeting, I will update the Commission on where these resources will be allocated.

#### B. STAFF PROJECTS

Technical Assistance Division Chief Carla Wardlow and I will attend the Secretary of State's Online Disclosure Task Force on January 12<sup>th</sup>. It is expected that preliminary recommendations will be produced at that meeting. If this happens, I will present those recommendations to the Commission and seek a position on each of them in order to give feedback to the Task Force and, eventually, communicate the Commission's positions in the event the recommendations make it into legislation.

The Technical Assistance Division's Adrienne Korchmaros conducted filing officer training seminars in Rancho Santa Margarita, and Dixie Howard spoke at the City Clerks annual New Law Conference in Monterey.

The Communications Office has published the winter edition of the *FPPC Bulletin*, updated several areas of the Commission's website (including posting the newly adopted Strategic Plan), begun posting recent advice letters on the website, and has been responding to media inquiries on a wide variety of issues.

#### C. APPROVAL OF CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST CODES/AMENDMENTS

Pursuant to Government Code section 87300 and Commission regulation 18750.1, state and multi-county agencies seeking to adopt or substantively amend a conflict-of-interest code must submit the proposed code to the Commission for review and approval. The Technical Assistance Division has reviewed and, since the last agenda, I have approved the following conflict-of-interest codes:

Mental Health, California Department of  
Public Employment Relations Board, State of California  
Sacramento Municipal Utility District  
Toxics Substances Control, California Department of  
West Valley Mission Community College District

#### D. FINDINGS OF PROBABLE CAUSE

There were none.

#### E. REQUESTS FOR EXTENSION OF COMMITTEE TERMINATION

Commission regulation 18404.1 requires that state-candidate-controlled committees organized for elective state office be terminated pursuant to specified deadlines. Pursuant to the regulation, the following requests for extension of those termination deadlines were submitted to the Executive Director:

**Corbett for Assembly (980193)** A request to re-open the committee was granted until December 31, 2005, in order to process a vendor's refund check.

**Bill Simon for Governor (1233478)** A request for extension was granted until June 30, 2005.